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BOOK REVIEWS

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HYGIENE. Edited by William H. Welch, with the assistance of a corps of scientific collaborators. Vol. 1, No. 1, Baltimore, January, 1921.

The appearance of the first number of this new Journal published under the auspices of the School of Hygiene and Public Health at Johns Hopkins University and supported by the DeLamar Fund, calls for more than passing mention. The new Journal is devoted to the publication of papers representing the results of research in the field of Hygiene using the term in its broadest sense. Numbers will appear bi-monthly and constitute an annual volume of about six hundred pages.

In his editorial introduction Dr. Welch emphasizes the increasing activity in this country in departments of public health and the emphasis being laid by them on scientific investigation. He comments further on the scattered sources in which this material has appeared and the lack of opportunity for its publication and expresses the hope that the new Journal may have its share in the promotion and distribution of this new knowledge.

Four out of the five articles in the first number fall in the field of Parasitology. These are: an extensive study on the Development of the Japanese Blood-Fluke in its Final Host, by W. W. Cort, an Experimental Study of the Intracranial Parasitism of the Human Lung Fluke, by Yokogawa and Suyemori, On Relationship of Hookworm Infection to the Health of Men in a United States Army Camp, by Kofoid and Tucker, and finally, Recent Experimental Studies on Yellow Fever, by Noguchi.

All workers in this field will recognize both the value of such a publication and its opportunities in this field. The best wishes of all may surely be extended to the editor and his associates for the future of the publication so auspiciously begun.

ESSENTIALS OF TROPICAL MEDICINE. By Walter E. Masters. Published by William Wood & Company, New York.

An American edition of an English work of recent date, the Essentials of Tropical Medicine, by Walter E. Masters, presents in summary fashion and from the standpoint of the man in the practice of medicine, the essentials of a subject which is rapidly outstripping in range all other specialized branches of medical science. It deserves the designation of a vade-mecum for the student and the busy tropical practitioner, a designation already given it by the author.

The method of organizing the material and the type of treatment accorded it are not attractive to the eye because of the numerous paragraph headings in heavy type and the exceedingly concise sentences which make up the text. At the same time it is easy to see that this treatment brings an enormous amount of material within a narrow compass and sets it out in a way to make the individual phases catch the eye of the worker promptly.

The work covers in successive chapters diseases due to protozoa, bacteria, helminths, venoms, poisons, etc. A wise feature and one that is not ordinarily found in a work of this type is the devotion of the closing chapter to laboratory hints. While these are in part elementary, they will serve adequately the purposes of the worker in the field to refresh his mind if he has forgotten the routine of laboratory procedure, and bring up before him a multitude of minor precautions which in the absence of such instructions are very likely to be overlooked, bringing trouble and often unexplained defeat. The figures, while not abundant, are on the whole very well selected and reasonably well produced. The work will serve a valuable purpose, and is worthy of commendation.